## -- CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

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This application is a continuation of International Patent Application

No. PCT/EP00/02665, filed March 27, 2000, in the European Patent Office; additionally,

Applicants claim the right of priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) - (d) based on patent application

No. 99830189.9, filed April 1, 1999, in the European Patent Office; further, Applicants claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) based on prior-filed, copending provisional application

No. 60/134,665, filed May 18, 1999, in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; the contents of all of which are relied upon and incorporated herein by reference.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention--

Page 1, line 9, add section subheading -- <u>Description of the Related Art</u>-- prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "Hereinbelow, the expression 'closed batch mixer' . . . ."

Page 6, line 34, add section heading --<u>SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION</u>-- prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "The Applicant has found that it is possible . . . ."

Page 12, line 5, add section heading --<u>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS</u>-prior to the start of the paragraph beginning "In any case, a better understanding...."

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